

#7IDS
M.Braunson
6/26/02
PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of

Kazuo HAKAMATA

Docket No: Q61216

Appln. No. 09/777,681

Group Art Unit: 2878

Confirmation No.: 3338

Examiner: Shun K. Lee

Filed: February 07, 2001

For: FLUORESCENCE IMAGING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

German Patent No. DE 198 03 753, published December 2, 1999;

German Patent No. DE 44 47 434, published August 31, 1995;

European Patent No. 0 571 908, published December 1, 1993;

U.S. Patent No. 5,233,197, issued August 3, 1993;

U.S. Patent No. 5,827,190, issued October 27, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 5,185,771, issued February 9, 1993; and

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Ueno et al., "Simultaneous Monitoring of DNA Fragments Separated by Electrophoresis in a Multiplexed Array of 100 Capillaries," Analytical Chemistry, American Chemical Society, Vol. 66, no. 9 (May 1, 1994), pp. 1424-1431.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a Foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/777,681

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Perng Pan
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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

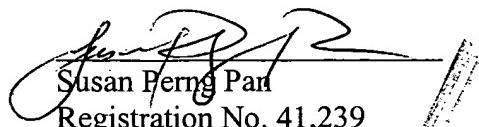
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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